



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** July 12, 2011

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Ratification Of The Cachuma Operation And Maintenance Board's  
Modified South Coast Conduit Upper Reach Reliability Project

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Ratifying the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board's Approval of the Modified South Coast Conduit Upper Reach Reliability Project, and Authorizing Certain Other Actions.

### DISCUSSION:

The Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board (COMB) is a joint powers authority that operates the South Coast Conduit and other infrastructure supplying Lake Cachuma water to the South Coast. The City is a member of COMB, with Councilmember Dale Francisco as the current Board Member representing the City. The other members of COMB include Montecito Water District, Carpinteria Valley Water District, Goleta Water District, and Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District #1.

In 2002, the California voters approved Proposition 50 (the Water Security Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002) which included \$500 million in grant funding to be allocated to regions with adopted Integrated Regional Water Management Plans. From these Proposition 50 funds, COMB was awarded \$3.2 million in grant funding for a project to improve the reliability of a section of the South Coast Conduit in the area between the South Portal of the Tecolote Tunnel and the Corona Del Mar Water Treatment Plant in Goleta. To accomplish the project for which the grant funding has been approved, COMB intends to replace the deteriorating vault at the South Portal and make needed repairs and improvements to the South Coast Conduit pipeline and appurtenances ("Modified South Coast Conduit Upper Reach Reliability Project"). The Modified Project is a substitute for the previously proposed Second Barrel project, originally planned to include some of this work. The State Water Board has determined

that the Modified Project qualifies for the Proposition 50 grant funds as a replacement for the original Second Barrel project.

Total project costs for the Modified Project are not to exceed \$4.2 million. The Proposition 50 grant funding will cover \$3.2 million of the Modified Project costs. The balance of costs for the Modified Project, \$1,000,000, will be paid by the South Coast member agencies of COMB in the same proportion as costs are allocated under the terms of the COMB Joint Powers Agreement. The City's share of the net Modified Project costs would be approximately \$360,000. Some of this amount has already been paid and will count toward the City's share of the costs. The remainder of the City's share has been included in the adopted Fiscal Year 2012 Water Fund Operating Budget.

On June 27, 2011, the COMB Board approved by minute action the Modified South Coast Conduit Upper Reach Reliability Project. The COMB Joint Powers Agreement requires that if the COMB Board approves a project with costs greater than \$1 million that would be proportionally shared by the member agencies, each of the COMB member agencies must ratify the COMB approval by resolution. The recommended resolution provides the necessary ratification.

The Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District #1 receives no benefit from the Modified Project. Improvement District #1 Board will ratify the Modified Project only if it is not obligated to contribute any of the Modified Project costs and only if COMB indemnifies it from any responsibility or liability for the Modified Project. COMB has agreed to the conditions imposed by Improvement District No. 1.

**PREPARED BY:** Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager/BF/mh

**SUBMITTED BY:** Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office